

# MEMORANDUM



## JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE

TO Joint Budget Committee Members  
FROM Craig Harper, JBC Staff (303-866-3481)  
DATE March 23, 2018  
SUBJECT Clarifications Regarding March 23, 2018, Committee Motions Regarding Education

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The Committee made three motions this morning affecting the Department of Education's section of the FY 2018-19 Long Bill. Staff is returning with additional information and recommendations related to each motion.

*Early Literacy:* The Committee approved an increase of \$1.0 million cash funds from the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund for the Early Literacy Competitive Grant Program. The increase would provide a total of \$5.0 million for the Competitive Grant Program.

- However, statute (Section 22-7-1210 (4), C.R.S.) currently specifies that the Department is to spend \$4.0 million on the Competitive Grant Program and requires the Department to use any remaining funds for per pupil distributions under the READ Act. Therefore, JBC Staff and OLLS Staff both agree that increasing the allocation for the Competitive Grant Program requires a statutory change.
- **Staff recommends that the Committee revise the motion to set aside \$1.0 million cash funds from the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund to be appropriated in separate legislation adjusting the READ Act statutes.**

*Supplemental On-line Education:* The Committee approved an increase of \$200,000 General Fund for the Supplemental On-line Education Services line item.

- The State Public School Fund currently supports the Supplemental On-line Education Services program, and the balance of the State Public School Fund can support the increase.
- **Staff recommends that the Committee revise the motion to provide an increase of \$200,000 cash funds from the State Public School Fund rather than the General Fund.**

*Computer Science Education Grants for Teachers:* The Committee approved an increase of \$500,000 General Fund for the Computer Science Education Grants for Teachers line item.

- The State Education Fund currently supports this program, and the balance available in the State Education Fund can support the increase.
- **Staff recommends that the Committee revise the motion to provide an increase of \$500,000 cash funds from the State Education Fund rather than the General Fund.**